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Tuesday, June 17, 2008

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Halifax

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Latest on forest fire

'goth baby'

Gwen, Gavin shun tradition in favour of black nursery
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bad seed

Prankster switches banana with an apple at art gallery
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**High 18°
Low 11°**
WEATHER P. 19

Courthouse tears, jeers

Boudreau accused of deliberately killing daughter Karissa, 12

By **ROBYN YOUNG**
Metro Halifax

Dozens of angry Bridgewater residents crowded outside the town's courthouse yesterday shouting and swearing at Penny Boudreau as police escorted her into a waiting cruiser.

"Murderer! Killer!" echoed through the riverside community's peaceful streets.

"You deserve what you did to your daughter," one woman yelled while Boudreau covered her face and hurried from the exit to the car.

About 100 people packed the Bridgewater provincial courtroom where the 33-year-old made her first appearance on charges of first-degree murder in the death of her 12-year-old daughter, Karissa Boudreau.

She wept uncontrollably throughout the brief appearance, covering her tear-stained face with her hands and crumpled tissues.

Boudreau was arrested last Friday evening in Halifax after a four-month investigation into the murder of Karissa, whose frozen remains were found on the banks of the LaHave River on February 9.

Sitting front and centre in the court room yesterday were the woman's ex-husband, Shane Boudreau, his brother and Karissa's father, Paul Boudreau, and the Grade 6 student's grandparents Wayne and Suzanne Grear.

Vernon Macumber, Boudreau's boyfriend, stood quietly at the back of the gallery.

Judge Anne E. Crawford addressed Boudreau, saying she could not read the charges until her lawyer is available, and that Boudreau will be remanded at the Burnside jail until June 24, when

« *There's considerable evidence that gives us a high degree of confidence before the court. It'll all come out in the trial.* »

Crown prosecutor Paul Scovil



Penny Patricia Boudreau is escorted out of Bridgewater provincial court yesterday after her first appearance on charges of first-degree murder in the death of her 12-year-old daughter, Karissa Boudreau.

she returns to court.

"In the meantime, I'm directing the correctional centre that you're to have no contact with the named Crown witnesses," she said after the Crown named Shane Boudreau, Paul Boudreau

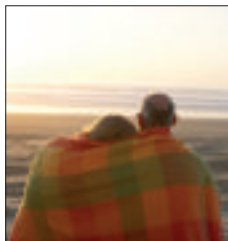
and Vernon Macumber as witnesses.

Crown prosecutor Paul Scovil told reporters that Boudreau's lawyer, Pat Atherton, wasn't able to make it to the courthouse because of previously scheduled

court matters and he offered a few details about the Crown's case.

"There's considerable evidence that gives us a high degree of confidence before the court," he said. "It'll all come out in the trial."

—robyn.young@metronews.ca



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local



Getting sick of your stinky compost? You'll have to hold your nose for two more weeks. Weekly compost collection in the city doesn't start till July 2 and runs till Aug. 29. It's only available in certain communities such as Halifax, Dartmouth and Cole Harbour. To see if your area gets weekly pickup, check www.halifax.ca/wrms. METRO HALIFAX

Final evacuees return home

RCMP gives OK to all 5,000 forced to flee forest fire

By LINDSAY JONES
Metro Halifax

It was news Merve White and Peggy MacInnis had been waiting for all weekend; they could finally go home.

The Lawrencetown couple was among 50 remaining residents who returned to

the homes they were forced to flee over the weekend due to a massive forest fire east of Halifax.

RCMP permitted all residents to go home at 2 p.m. yesterday.

"It feels great," said White, 61, who only had the clothes on his back when he evacuated. "We're just glad to go home now, have a shower, have a little rest."

The raging forest fire started Friday, forcing the evacuation of about 5,000



emergency vehicles still active

» Police opened Highway 107 between exits 18 and 19 at 4 p.m. yesterday. They're asking people to travel with care in the Porters Lake, Lake Echo and Mineville areas, and to pull over to let fire trucks pass. Fire equipment left on private property should not be moved.

» RCMP are also asking boaters to stay off Lake Echo, which water bombers are drawing water from.

» Atlantic View Elementary, Bell Park Academic Centre and O'Connell Drive Elementary schools reopened today.

people over the weekend. About 19,000 hectares of land were burned. Two homes on the Candy Mountain Road were completely

destroyed.

Deputy fire chief Roy Hollett, who's also the emergency site manager, said firefighters were still seeing

"open flames" yesterday, but it's been contained to the Snow Lake area.

"There's no anticipation of it getting any larger," Hollett said.

Natural Resources staff used infrared cameras yesterday to identify hot spots.

Water-bombers brought in from New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec dumped up to 300 gallons of water at a time.

"It probably won't be completely extinguished until we

get a good rainstorm and that's what we're hoping for (today)," Hollett said.

RCMP spokesman Cpl. Joe Taplin said police believe the fire started north of the Wonderland Trailer Park.

Fire officials and police are still investigating the fire and haven't determined whether it is criminal.

Hollett said high winds gusting up to 90 km/h were the biggest factor in the fire's rapid spread.

-lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

Homeowner spared neighbours' devastation

Blaze destroys two houses, stops shy of third's gas tank

By LINDSAY JONES
Metro Halifax

Gary Stronach can't understand why his home was spared when both his neighbours' houses burned to the ground.

The fire stopped less than two metres from his full propane tank.

"God's hands were wrapped around our house. They were right here," he said gesturing towards his Candy Mountain Road home. "There's just no way to explain why our house is here and our neighbours' aren't."

But the fire did leave its mark. It melted off the vinyl trim on his storm door and cracked an upstairs window. His garage, filled with several family treasures, was destroyed. All of the foliage, the grass and woods behind his home are completely



ABOVE: Gary Stronach says it's unexplainable how his house was spared when his next-door neighbours' homes on Candy Mountain Road burned to the ground. He said he plans to help the neighbours rebuild.

RIGHT: The forest fire stopped less than two metres from the full propane tank next to Gary Stronach's home. Both of his neighbours' homes on Candy Mountain Drive burned to the ground.

charred.

"This is a total devastation as far as the landscape goes. It will grow back, but our neighbours won't be able to recover their lost mementos, their life," he said.

All that was left of Clive Jones' split entry bungalow was a foundation wall and chimney.

The other neighbour's home was also destroyed

except for a couple untouched garden ornaments. Someone had left a basket of flowers in the driveway.

"We're really close with our neighbours and it's really difficult to express how emotionally disturbing it is to come home to a landscape like this," he said.

"It's numbing."

Stronach, who has lived there for 35 years and says his was the second home

built on Candy Mountain Road, plans to help them rebuild.

"It's the way Mineville has been since day one — you help your neighbours, party with your neighbours, suffer with your neighbours."

-lindsay.jones@metronews.ca



Insurance companies to settle fast, broker says

The fire has now receded from homes, so it's time to pick up the pieces and call the insurance company.

Two homes were utterly destroyed and at least a dozen other properties damaged.

Robert Whynott, with Creative Solutions Insurance Brokerage, said it won't take long for the insurance claims to kick in.

"They don't want to have this stuff hanging over as an open claim for months or weeks. They want it settled in days," he said.

As for the two families on Candy Mountain Road who lost their houses, the big task will be to inventory everything they owned, Whynott said. The uninsured will be on their own, unless they can find government funding.

Soon after the evacuation on Friday, Whynott said he had calls asking to add items to the home insurance plan.

"It's funny it wasn't worth it at the time, but when it's threatened by fire, they want it insured."

David Currie, with The Co-operators in Dartmouth, said based on the aftermath of hurricane Juan, he expects business to pick up in the next few weeks, noting most calls so far have been on costs incurred due to the evacuation.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Outpouring of thanks

Community shows firefighters support for saving town

By LINDSAY JONES
Metro Halifax

Signs dotted the roadways yesterday to show appreciation to the hundreds of firefighters who continue to battle a raging brush fire east of Halifax.

"Thank you. Thank you for saving our community," said a sign at the entrance to Mineville.

RCMP spokesman Cpl. Joe Taplin said the firefighters saved Candy Mountain Road and Country Lake Drive subdivisions from being com-



Firefighters wait for their next shift battling the massive forest fire, which officials say has been contained to the Snow Lake area.

pletely destroyed.

"The fire services are the heroes here," Taplin said. "They really are."

Matt Connors, a firefighter from Sackville, said they're all very thankful for the support and that fighting the

fire, the biggest he's ever seen in his life, is one of the hardest things he's ever done.

-lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

Liberals point to need for air water bomber

Brush fires could have been kept in control: Critic

By ROBYN YOUNG
Metro Halifax

Brush fires that ripped through parts of HRM last weekend could have been better controlled if the province had its own water bomber says a Liberal MLA.

"If we'd had water-bomber support right from the word go, it could have made a difference," said Natural Resources

critic Leo Glavine.

A Department of Natural Resources spokeswoman, said the province would have to cough up about \$28 million for its own six-wing air tanker.

"It wouldn't be a cost-effective method for us," said Jennifer Gavin.

The province has a joint agreement with several jurisdictions in North America, for access to the use of water bomber aircrafts when they're needed.

She said with this agreement, the province is assured of having water bombers available within 24 hours of a distress call and two from

New Brunswick arrived within an hour-and-a-half of the call last Saturday while another arrived from Quebec within eight hours of a call.

Glavine suggested the

province does as other regions do and contract out a private company that would be available in crisis situations.

"That initial response prevents hundreds of thousands of hectares from being destroyed," Glavine said.

-robyn.young@metronews.ca

forest fires

» Gavin said there have been about 4,000 forest fires in the province in the last decade or so, and the six-wing air tankers have been called in on only 10 occasions.

Province warns evacuees on water, food hazards

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
for Metro Halifax

Evacuees are back home, but the ordeal isn't over yet.

The province is warning the 5,000 people who were

ordered from their homes because of the fire to be careful as they move back in.

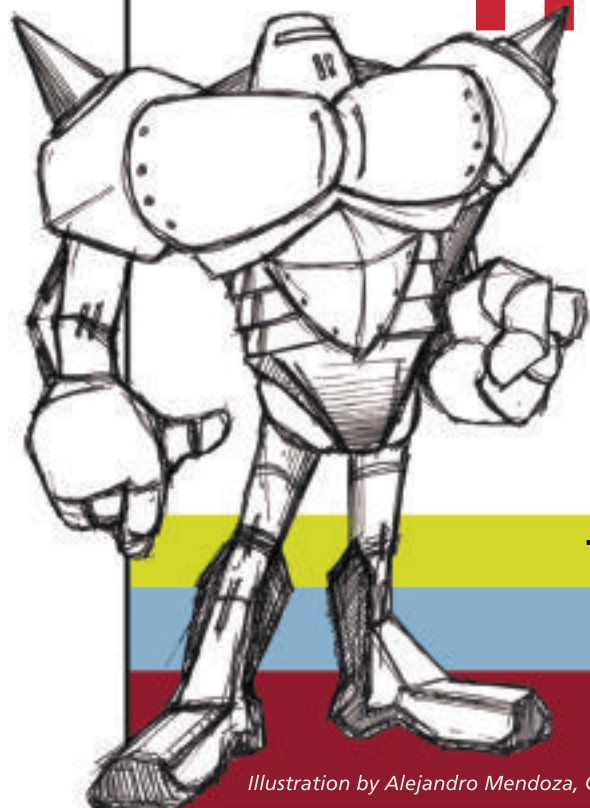
Because of power outages, some foods like uncooked meat, poultry and seafood left in the fridge might be

dangerous. Health Promotion and Protection is advising people if the air is warm when the fridge is open, toss all the food inside.

Well water shouldn't be used if the fire was nearby.

Melted caps or casings would sour the water. Wells should be repaired, disinfected and the water tested before it is consumed. Fire ash may have left small amounts of cancer-causing chemicals.

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METRO HALIFAX

Emily back on lake duty

Councillor makes trip with papier mâché dragon

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
Metro Halifax

Emily is back at work, bobbing on the water of Miller Lake.

Yesterday Waverly-Fall-River-Beaver Bank Coun. Krista Snow made her annual pilgrimage to the middle of Miller Lake to anchor the papier mâché dragon for another summer.

She said it's worth the trip every year.

"She's always been there. Ever since I was a little girl, all my sisters and I would pile over to one side (of the car) to see the original Miller Lake dragon."



Waverly-Fall River-Beaver Bank Coun. Krista Snow escorts the Emily the dragon to the dock on Miller Lake. Boy scouts from a nearby summer camp arrived in a boat to take them to the middle of the lake where the dragon will preside for another summer.

Six-year-old Emily was painstakingly crafted by Snow, but the dragon's predecessors date back about five decades.

A chuck of log sticking out of the lake looked like a snarled dragon and delighted motorists driving on the nearby highway.

But the original was stolen — twice. Then crafted versions were also stolen. Probably because it's a challenge to steal, said Snow. But if

« Ever since I was a little girl, all my sisters and I would pile over to one side (of the car) to see the original Miller Lake dragon. »

Coun. Krista Snow

Emily goes missing, it's no big deal, she added.

"I'll just make another one."

Boy scouts from a nearby summer camp arrived at the dock at 6 p.m. yesterday to carry Emily, Snow, and a small entourage out to the middle of the lake.

"She really isn't an effort, but the worst thing is when she comes out of the water (in the fall). Every bug in 10 counties gets inside of her," Snow said.

—jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

crime

Three charged, drugs seized

SYDNEY Three local residents were arrested by the Cape Breton Regional Police street crimes unit during the weekend on a variety of charges.

The police investigation resulted in a seizure of 125,000 cigarettes estimated to be worth \$12,000, 8.5 pounds of marijuana with a street value of \$40,000, approximately \$2,000 in cash and two vehicles — a BMW and a Honda Accord.

Ashley Howell, 32, Ryan Carmen Howell, 27, and Sarah Catherine Walsh, 27, face various charges.

Walsh was released on an undertaking and promise to appear in court July 29.

THE CAPE BRETON POST

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Charges wake-up call: Mom

Teens accused of assaulting girl with weapon

By PAUL MCLEOD
Metro Halifax

The mother of one of five teenagers charged with confining and assaulting a 14-year-old girl says she hopes her son will be scared straight.

Brandon Weare, 18, along with two girls aged 13 and 15 and two boys aged 15 and 17 are alleged to have held a 14-year-old-girl they knew in a house against her will while assaulting her with a weapon Saturday afternoon.

in court

» Brandon's show cause hearing was put off until tomorrow. The other teens appeared in youth court and were released to their parents under strict conditions, including avoiding contact with each other and the victim.

According to Brandon's mother, Carol Weare, the weapon was a broom handle and at one point the group trapped the victim in a freezer.

Weare said the teens likely thought they were merely pulling a prank on the girl. She said her son had fallen in with a bad crowd and hopes this will

be a wake-up call.

"I just hope Brandon straightens his life out and this scares him straight," said Weare yesterday at Dartmouth Provincial Court.

Carol Weare said the assault took place at the home of the 15-year-old girl — who she described as the ring-leader — but didn't know what their relationship was to the victim or what sparked the assault. She said the assault may also have involved "something with cigarettes."

She said her son has a learning disability, has had to move several times in recent years and is easily influenced by "the wrong crowd."

—paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

Man hid marijuana around penis

By PAUL MCLEOD
Metro Halifax

Getting caught with marijuana by police is bad enough. But the drug arrest of John Christopher Williams, 34, was particularly embarrassing.

Williams has a lengthy criminal record and had

failed to show up for court dates more than once, leading to a warrant for his arrest. When police found and arrested him they didn't find any drugs on him and Williams didn't say anything.

It was only when he was being checked in to prison that guards discovered nine grams of marijuana wrapped around

his penis. Williams says it was all a misunderstanding.

He appeared yesterday in Dartmouth Provincial Court under charges of smuggling drugs into prison.

His lawyer said Williams now realizes he should have told police about the pot sooner. He was sentenced to thirty days in prison.

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Councillor calls for report on hiring special constables

By ROBYN YOUNG
Mero Halifax

Cost shouldn't be a deciding factor in hiring special constables for transit buses, says a city councillor.

"It would cost less than what the life of a bus driver would cost," said Harry McInroy.

The Cole Harbour councillor will ask council tonight to look into security for Metro Transit.

"There's been a seemingly increasing issue of assaults on bus drivers, the most recent one a few weeks back where a driver was viciously beaten by a group of five or six guys," McInroy said.

There also seems to be an increase in illegal and inappropriate activity taking place on buses and in and around transit terminals he added.



ROBYN YOUNG/METRO HALIFAX

A city councillor will request a report from council tonight about having special constables on Metro Transit to ensure the safety of drivers and passengers.

And with HRM planning to expand transit service over the next several years, he said, it's up to the city to ensure it's safe.

"It's something that you just have to do," he said.

McInroy will request a report on obtaining special transit constables, with information gathered from

other cities of a comparable size with comparable transit systems.

He said the constables wouldn't come from the Halifax Regional Police; they would be specially designated security officers with some legislation allowing them to make arrests or hand out fines.

Dan MacDonald, president of the local amalgamated transit union, couldn't be reached for comment on the subject, but McInroy said he's spoken to the union leader many times on the subject.

"They've been asking for this for years," he said.

-robyn.young@metronews.ca

Uteck's daughter missing

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
Mero Halifax

"She was last spoken to by family members on the 11th of June."

The 15-year-old daughter of Northwest Arm-South End Coun. Sue Uteck has gone missing.

Theresa Rath, spokeswoman for the Halifax Regional Police, wouldn't name the missing girl, but confirmed a 15-year-old girl was missing.

"We don't have any indication of foul play or anything criminal in nature," said Rath.

A missing persons report was made yesterday.

« We don't have any indication of foul play or anything criminal in nature. »

Halifax police spokeswoman

Theresa Rath

that's something police will investigate. "We will speak to family and friends in the area and if there is an indication that the person is out of the area, then we will bring in other police agencies as necessary."

Coun. Uteck would not comment on the issue.

-jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

»news In Brief

» **INSURANCE** Auto insurance companies will soon have to put it all out there and explain their rates to the province. Yesterday Finance Minister Michael Baker put out the call for input on his plan to have insurance companies review their rates on a regular basis by the province's Insurance Review Board. As it is, companies have to apply to the board to

change their rates and classifications, but they don't explain all their current rates. The finance department says that since 2005, more than 60 per cent of insurance companies in the province haven't filed explanations for their rates. "We want to ensure that consumers get the best possible rates," said Baker.

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The Ontario government will announce today that it is providing \$1 million in seed money for a groundbreaking method of turning simple skin cells into stem cells. The goal is to make cells that can replace tissue damaged by disease or accidents.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Couillard refusing to testify

Bernier, Harper also decline to appear at probe

Julie Couillard, the woman at the centre of the missing documents scandal that forced Maxime Bernier from his job as foreign affairs minister, is refusing to voluntarily appear before a Commons

committee.

Both Couillard and Bernier could face charges under the Security of Information Act and it's unfair to compel her to speak while Bernier remains silent about his role, lawyer Jean-C. Hébert said in a letter to the Commons public safety committee.

"I regret to inform you that Ms. Julie Couillard chooses



reasonable grounds

» Julie Couillard has "reasonable grounds" to believe that the Mounties have launched an investigation and worries that being forced to tell her story to the Commons committee would prejudice her defence in any subsequent trial, her lawyer Jean-C. Hébert wrote.

to decline the invitation to appear," Hébert wrote.

Bernier was forced from his job last month after being forced to admit he had for-

gotten classified documents at Couillard's Montreal-area home.

Committee members are probing that security breach

and are also asking questions about Bernier's romantic relationship with Couillard, a woman with past ties with organized crime.

However, the Conservative government is refusing to co-operate, saying that neither Bernier nor Prime Minister Stephen Harper will testify.

That's not sitting well with

Couillard or her lawyer.

"My client, however, is at risk of being indicted by the attorney general for having had an official document in her possession, without lawful authority or excuse. The main witness for the prosecution would have to be Maxime Bernier," Hébert said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Victoria

City bylaw brings Charter challenge

HOMELESS In the first case of its kind heard in Canada, the constitutionality of Victoria's bylaw prohibiting sleeping in parks is being challenged by a number of people who argue they have a right to sleep in public places.

A homeless group argues that in the absence of shelter beds, it's a violation of their Charter rights for the city to ban them from sleeping in city parks and from putting up their own shelters, whether boxes, tents or tarps.

Victoria Mayor Alan Lowe said yesterday that the city is defending the bylaw because there are broad implications for all municipalities.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Montreal Assault trial



MIKE MCGAUGH/REUTERS

A photograph of an artist's sketch shows Vincent Duval, a 32-year-old Belgium man, in a Montreal court yesterday to face charges of allegedly luring, kidnapping and sexually assaulting a 13-year-old Montreal girl.

Tamil group added to terror list

Banks to freeze assets and report any transactions

The Canadian government added the World Tamil Movement to its list of terrorist groups yesterday, describing it as a front organization that raised funds for the rebel Tamil Tigers fighting against the government in Sri Lanka.

The World Tamil Movement's assets will be frozen and Canada's banking regulator said that Canadian fi-

nancial institutions must review their records and immediately report to the federal police any transactions made by the group.

The directive covers Canadian banks, insurance companies and credit unions and is part of Ottawa's effort to fight money laundering and terrorist financing.

"We have to send a clear message that we do not countenance this type of activity," Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day told a news conference in Toronto.

"By listing this group as a

front organization

» The World Tamil Movement, based in Toronto, was created in 1986 and the Canadian government called it "the leading front organization" for the rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, known as the Tamil Tigers.

terrorist-related organization, it will also be illegal for individuals or other groups or associations to assist in any way the World Tamil Movement."

REUTERS

Study suggests people are born gay

A new Swedish study showing important similarities between the brains of homosexual men and straight woman provides important new proof that people are born gay, a top Canadian researcher says.

The neural imaging study, which also showed key similarities between the brains of lesbians and heterosexual

men, might further help gays to make a political and sociological case for such things as equal marriage rights and greater legal and religious tolerance, experts say.

"There are now about three or four studies on gays that point to a different organization in the brain," says McMaster University

neuroscientist Sandra Witelson.

"And what I think this means is that these are differences that can't be explained by any environmental or learning factors," says Witelson, who herself has done groundbreaking work on brain differences between gays and straights.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief



» **ONTARIO** Power-hungry Ontario wants new sources of electricity near Toronto. Hard-hat Durham Region wants jobs. Those factors won out over environmental fears and huge costs yesterday as the province announced that the

Darlington nuclear plant will be expanded to accommodate Canada's first new reactors in two decades, which are expected to generate up to 3,200 megawatts of power — enough to power all homes and businesses in Toronto.

» **HEALTH** A new bill would allow foreign-trained doctors to work in Ontario faster — and in some cases immediately — in an effort to ensure access to medical care for all citizens of that province.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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world

business

35 militants killed in Afghanistan

Violence still on the rise thanks to Taliban comeback

Afghan and U.S.-led coalition forces, backed by air support, have killed 35 insurgents in the south of the country in two separate clashes, the U.S. military

said yesterday.

Violence has surged in Afghanistan since 2006 when the ousted Taliban made a comeback, with nearly 13,000 people killed during the period.

In one of the engagements, 20 militants were killed on Sunday after they attacked a joint patrol of

Afghan and coalition forces in Zabul province, the U.S. military said in a statement.

In the second incident, the militants attacked a joint patrol of foreign and Afghan forces on Saturday in Helmand province which too lies in the south and is part of the Taliban's main bastion, another statement said.

Air support was used in both encounters and there were no casualties among Afghan or foreign forces, it added.

Removed from power in 2001, the al Qaeda-backed Taliban could not immediately be reached for comment.

REUTERS

cross-border threat

» **Afghan President Hamid Karzai's threat of a cross-border pursuit of militants is more of a tactic to build pressure on Pakistan than a signal of real intent, analysts said yesterday. Unnerved by Pakistan's efforts to make peace with militants in its tribal areas,**

Karzai made the warning on Sunday after the Taliban launched a bold and successful mass jailbreak in Kandahar in southern Afghanistan. The Pakistan Foreign Ministry lodged a strong protest about Karzai's statement yesterday.

»news In Brief

» **CRACKDOWN** Iraq's security forces tightened their grip on the southern city of Amara yesterday and appealed to Shi'ite militias to hand over heavy weapons before a government deadline for launching a crackdown.

» **PAKISTAN** A bomb exploded in a Shi'ite Muslim mosque in Pakistan's northwestern city of Dera Ismail Khan on Monday,

killing four people and wounding two, police said. The bomb went off at dusk when Shi'ites were gathered in the mosque for prayers.

» **GORE** Former U.S. vice-president Al Gore officially endorsed Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama's bid for the White House at a rally in Detroit last night.

REUTERS

'Super-Earths' discovered

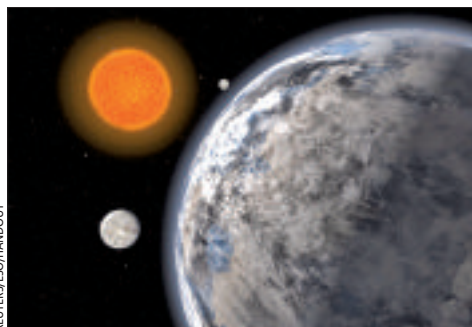
Researchers say Earth-like planets may be common

European researchers said yesterday they discovered a batch of three "super-Earths" orbiting a nearby star, and two other solar systems with small planets as well.

They said their findings, presented at a conference in France, suggest that Earth-like planets may be very common.

"Does every single star harbour planets and, if yes, how many?" asked Michel Mayor of Switzerland's Geneva Observatory. "We may not yet know the answer but we are making huge progress towards it," Mayor said in a statement.

The trio of planets orbit a star slightly less massive than



An artist's impression of the trio of super-Earths discovered by an European team using the HARPS spectrograph on ESO's 3.6-m telescope at La Silla, Chile, after five years of monitoring.

our Sun, 42 light-years away towards the southern Doradus and Pictor constellations. A light-year is the distance light can travel in one year at a speed of 300,000 km a second, or about 9.5 trillion km.

The planets are bigger than Earth — one is 4.2 times the

mass, one is 6.7 times and the third is 9.4 times. They orbit their star at extremely rapid speeds — one whizzing around in just four days, compared with Earth's 365 days, one taking 10 days and the slowest taking 20 days.

REUTERS

gay marriage

California has first same-sex weddings

LEGAL California performed its first legally recognized same-sex weddings yesterday and opened its doors to gay and lesbian couples from around the country, a move likely to challenge other states that define marriage as between a man and a woman.

Octogenarians Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon took the first vows in San Francisco's ornate City Hall.

The two, who have been together for more than 50 years, were also the first to be married in 2004, during the "Winter of Love" when about 4,000 same-sex couples exchanged vows. Courts overturned those particular unions.

REUTERS

»news

In Brief

» **WIRELESS** The chief operating officer of Rogers Communications Inc., said Rogers will unveil new pricing models in the coming weeks that are intended to "drive adoption" of such devices as Apple Inc.'s iPhone, available in Canada through Rogers on July 11.

» **BCE** Canada's top court will begin less than three hours of hearings this morning to decide if the leveraged buyout of BCE Inc. is to proceed. Following that, it could reserve judgment and make a decision several days later, or it could rule "from the bench" immediately.

» **SMARTPHONES** Nokia yesterday unveiled two new cellphone models aimed at the business market dominated by Research In Motion's BlackBerry device, but investors were unimpressed, sending RIM shares up five per cent.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY KATE HUDSON



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Metro is the world's largest international newspaper, with more than 18.5 million daily readers in 100 major cities in 21 countries.



THE DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

Alarm, security technicians can have experience recognized:

Nova Scotians who have substantial experience working in the alarm and security trade will now have the option to gain recognition for those skills through a certification process. The Department of Labour and Workforce Development, in partnership with industry and the Canadian Security Association, introduced a new provincial certificate of qualification examination on Friday. Tradespeople who have 9,000 hours or four-and-a-half years of hands-on experience working in the trade can write the certification exam without completing a full apprenticeship program. The cost associated with applying for and writing the alarm and security technician exam will be reduced for the first 18 months from 654 dollars to 130 dollars.

Atlantic bio-science firms head for Calif. conference:

The Atlantic Canada Bio-Industries Alliance will lead a delegation of 12 Atlantic Canadian bio-science-based companies and organizations to San Diego, Calif. to attend an international conference with help from the federal and provincial governments under the Canada/Atlantic Provinces Agreement on International Business Development. The BIO 2008 International Conference, being held June 17-20, is the largest annual meeting and exhibition for the biotechnology industry in the world. A total of \$103,000 in financial assistance is provided through the IBDA, a federal-provincial agreement which is designed to help Atlantic Canadian businesses enter, explore and succeed in international markets.

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sports



New York Yankees pitcher Chien-ming Wang, left, will be out of action for at least six weeks after injuring his right foot while running the bases in a game on Sunday, the team said yesterday. **REUTERS**

Limping Tiger triumphant

Woods battles through bad knee, playoff to win third U.S. Open title

Tiger Woods held off a late comeback by fellow American Rocco Mediate and sporadic knee pain to win his 14th major title in a nailbiting playoff for the U.S. Open yesterday.

The world No. 1, three shots ahead after 10 holes, slipped to one behind playing the last before triumphing in sudden-death with a regulation par at the 19th hole on the South Course at Torrey Pines.

Woods, who birdied the par-five 18th to match Mediate's level-par round of 71, sealed his third U.S. Open victory with a two-putt par at the seventh where his birdie attempt from 25 feet fell inches short.

Mediate bogeyed the hole after driving into a fairway bunker and pulling his approach into the left rough 100 yards short of the green. After reaching the green in three, he failed to sink the par



Tiger Woods kisses the trophy after beating Rocco Mediate in the playoff round of the U.S. Open golf championship at Torrey Pines in San Diego yesterday. **DANNY MOLOSHOK/REUTERS**

putt from 20 feet.

"Today was just unreal," a beaming Woods said in a greenside television interview after joining his childhood idol Jack Nicklaus as the only player to win

each of the four majors at least three times.

"It was back and forth, back and forth and 90 holes wasn't enough. We had to go one more." **REUTERS**

Sens, Flames eyeing trades

At least two Canadian-based clubs could complete key trades before or during the NHL draft in Ottawa this weekend.

The Senators are offering Ray Emery and the St. Louis Blues, for one, are willing to take the goaltender, his \$3-million US salary and his tarnished reputation.

The Calgary Flames, meanwhile, are chatting with Florida about the Panthers' captain, Olli Jokinen, who has been embroiled in a cold war with general manager Jacques Martin. Jokinen, 30, is multi-talented but Martin privately questions his desire.

Jokinen has two years and \$10.75-million remaining on a contract he signed in 2006, when Flames coach Mike Keenan was the Panthers' GM.

That U.S. Open playoff yesterday was a treat for those of us whose jobs allowed us the freedom to watch Tiger Woods and Rocco Mediate compete.

It's absurd, though, to settle a major golf championship on a Monday afternoon, when most fans are at work. Imagine if a Stanley Cup game were tied after regulation and the NHL elected to start the overtime the next afternoon. Idiomatic, eh?

Golf needs to smarten up.

Only in the CFL: Quarterback Chris Leak, who led the Florida Gators to a national championship in the



YORK REPORT
MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca

NCAA in 2006, bolted the other day from the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, who claimed he was jumping to the Arena Football League. Now, Leak has joined the Montreal Alouettes. And the consensus is that he has all the prerequisites needed to become a CFL superstar ... Then there was receiver Charles Rogers, a former No. 1 draft choice in the NFL. He told the Als he'd join them in camp. Verbally agreed to a deal. Never showed. Now set to join the Minnesota Vikings ... From former linebacker A.J. Gass, on the transition to assistant coach for the Edmonton Eskimos: "Really uncomfortable. I was on the outside looking in (during the Esks' first exhibition game last week). I didn't know what I was doing or how to prepare myself." ... And the Toronto Argonauts are leaning toward starting the regular season with Michael Bishop at QB instead of league MVP Kerry Joseph. Believe it.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

»sports In Brief

» **MLB** The struggling Seattle Mariners, last in all of baseball, fired executive vice president of baseball operations and general manager Bill Bavasi yesterday, and replaced him with Lee Pelekoudas on an interim basis.

» **NHL** The Nashville Predators signed defenceman Ryan Suter to a four-year, \$14-million US contract yesterday. Suter, 23, established career highs in assists (24), points (31) and penalty minutes (71) last season.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ballack's big blast lifts Germany into quarters

Croatia finishes first in Group B

EURO 2008

Germany dashed the dreams of their smaller neighbour Austria yesterday, beating the hopeful co-hosts of Euro 2008 1-0 in their capital and dumping them out of the tournament.

Any Austrian hopes of upsetting the powerful Germans were dashed just after halftime when Germany captain Michael Ballack hit a screaming free kick into the

roof of the net for what turned out to be the winner.

"It's our own fault we ended up in this situation due to the Croatia match," the German captain said. "It meant we couldn't play relaxed."

In yesterday's other encounter Croatia beat Poland 1-0 with a goal from striker Ivan Klasnic, who has undergone two kidney transplants in the past 18 months.

Croatia, will now play Turkey in the quarter-finals in Vienna on Friday, one day after Germany take on Group A winners Portugal. **REUTERS**

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Game 7 — Thursday

*L.A. Lakers at Boston, 10

(Boston leads series 3-2)

(* — if necessary)

MLB

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS

INTERLEAGUE

Boston at Philadelphia

N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels

Florida at Seattle

Detroit at San Francisco

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Atlanta 7 Colorado 1

TONIGHT'S GAMES

INTERLEAGUE

San Diego at N.Y. Yankees, 8:05

Boston at Philadelphia, 8:05

Houston at Baltimore, 8:05

Chicago Cubs at Tampa Bay, 8:10

Toronto at Milwaukee, 9:05

Atlanta at Texas, 9:05

Washington at Minnesota, 9:10

Pittsburgh at Chicago W. Sox, 9:11

Kansas City at St. Louis, 9:15

Cleveland at Colorado, 10:05

Oakland at Arizona, 10:40

N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels, 11:05

Florida at Seattle, 11:10

Detroit at San Francisco, 11:15

NATIONAL LEAGUE

L.A. Dodgers at Cincinnati, 8:10

CFL

PRE-SEASON

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Hamilton at Toronto, 8

Montreal at Winnipeg, 9

Saskatchewan at Edmonton, 10

Calgary at B.C., 11

(End of pre-season)

EURO 2008

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Croatia 1 Poland 0

Germany 1 Austria 0

TODAY'S GAMES

Netherlands vs. Romania, 3:45

France vs. Italy, 3:45



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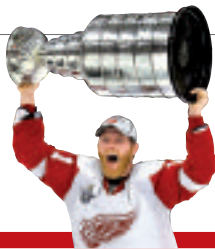
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Detroit Red Wings forward Dan Cleary, left, is bringing the Stanley Cup to his hometown of Harbour Grace, N.L., on Canada Day, CBC.ca reports. He is the first Newfoundlander to win the Cup.

METRO HALIFAX

Anderson preparing for shot at ATP

Challenger tournament boasts \$35,000 in prizes

By **MATTHEW WUEST**
Metro Halifax

Phil Anderson is about to get his first taste of professional tennis — and he won't have to go far to get it.

The 18-year-old Halifax southpaw is headed to Moncton this weekend to compete in a pre-qualifying tournament that will send one Atlantic Canadian to the qualifying portion of an ATP Challenger in Moncton next month.

It's a unique opportunity, and Anderson calls the chance to pre-qualify the highlight of his summer before he leaves in August for his freshman year at the University of New Mexico.

"It'd be unreal — like no tennis that has ever been played around here that I can remember," said Anderson, a former 16-and-under national singles champion. "I've never

seen a pro tournament in Halifax, let alone Atlantic Canada."

It's the first time a pro tournament has been held in New Brunswick, and the first time in 12 years one has been played in Atlantic Canada. Halifax hosted a challenger in 1992 and a Davis Cup Americas Zone in 1998.

Bridgewater's Adam Becker and Bedford's Cameron Starratt are among the other Nova Scotians expected to be in Moncton for the pre-qualifier, although the entry list isn't official.

"If I get into the (qualifiers), it will be the biggest tournament I've ever played in," Anderson said. "I've never played in a pro tournament in my life ... a real ATP challenger."

Anderson said he had heard rumours "all the time" on the local tennis circuit that a pro tournament could come to Atlantic Canada, but was surprised when it did.

"It's a big deal — they're really on top of their programs and they're trying to progress the game of tennis in New Brunswick," Anderson said.

"It's awesome, and it benefits me, even though I don't live there. I owe a lot to them, for sure."

Anderson got his summer off to a strong start, beating Jamie Power for the Courtyard Classic title earlier this month. He's also been teaching tennis, which he said helps his game.

"I love it," he said. "It's honestly helped me get back in the swing, mentally. I was getting frustrated, a bit, but you start to appreciate the game more, what it's done for me, and the level I can reach. I have a way better understanding of tennis."

There are \$35,000 in prizes at the challenger, which runs July 12 to 20 at Centennial Park. If Anderson wants a shot at it, he'll have to get by Becker, who plays at the University of Texas at San Antonio and is one of Nova Scotia's top players.

"I'm definitely confident ... I know I can do it," Anderson said. "But Adam Becker is playing really well right now, so it's going to take a good, solid tennis-playing weekend."

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca



DAVID NEWS FILE PHOTO

Phil Anderson is headed to Moncton this weekend to compete in a pre-qualifying tournament ahead of the qualifying portion of the ATP Challenger to be held next month.



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Province's Olympic contingent hits five

Three more closing in on coveted spot

Nova Scotia officially bumped its Olympian count to five yesterday when Canoe-Kayak Canada announced its team for Beijing.

Dartmouth canoeist Andrew Russell and Waverley kayaker Karen Furneaux were named to the team, as reported last week in Metro News. Russell is headed to his first Olympics, while Furneaux is set to become a three-time Olympian.

Both paddlers were named Sport Nova Scotia's Cleve's

team athletes of the month for May yesterday.

Russell and Furneaux join sailors Lisa Ross of Lunenburg and Oliver Bone, a Montreal native living in Halifax, and rower Tracy Cameron of Shubenacadie, as Nova Scotia's Olympic contingent. Qualifying is ongoing in other sports.

Nova Scotia sent five paddlers to the Athens Olympics in 2004. Fall River artistic gymnast David Kikuchi is closing in on an Olympic spot, while female sprinters Adrienne Power and Jenna Martin are within striking distance of qualifying.

METRO HALIFAX

athletics

Power wraps up monthly honours

AWARDS East Jeddore's Adrienne Power has been named Sport Nova Scotia's Cleve's female individual athlete of the month for May.

Power ran the fastest 200-metre dash of any Canadian woman in the past 14 years at a United States Track and Field Association event in Utah with a time of 22.86 seconds. The former BLG award winner as Canada's top university athlete achieved an Olympic A standard with her time.

New Glasgow judoka Bryan Campbell won the male individual award.

METRO HALIFAX

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No need to drown in student debt

There are some ways to survive paying it all back

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you may have. The faster you pay it down, the faster you can free up your money for more fun and lucrative things.

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est rate loan, it's worth meeting with an expert to find out your best options.

We love hearing from you, if you have questions for the Smart Cookies or want to share your confessions, please e-mail smartcookies@metronews.ca.

Tune in Wednesday night at 9 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.



Keeping track of how much you owe is the first step in taking control of your student debt.

to help if you have long-term financial difficulties. **MAKE EXTRA PAYMENTS:** In B.C. alone, student loans range from a floating rate of prime plus 2.5 per cent or a fixed rate at prime plus five per cent. To avoid paying your student loan for the next 15 years, try making extra payments every year towards that loan. This doesn't have to be a huge chunk of money, but even if you start putting away an extra \$100-\$200 each month, you will have \$1,220-\$2,400 to put towards your student loan, decreasing the amount of years left to contribute. Treat your student loan like any other type of debt

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Baby steps for your RRSPs

My wife and I are in our mid-30s and have no children. My wife is employed and I am self-employed. Neither she nor I have pension plans. How much should we set aside for retirement?

-ROBERT AND KIM

One person's "shack" is another's castle. How much of a nest egg an individual needs for retirement depends entirely upon the lifestyle they want. Statistics have shown the average Canadian male lives to 78 years old and women to 81. Government CPP and OAS will not fund your retirement. Individuals with no private pension will have to save more.

Surveys have shown the average Canadian would be content with about \$3,300 per month of retirement income. In today's dollars, an individual may need approxi-



MONEY MATTERS
HENRY CHOO CHONG
choochonghcg@yahoo.ca

mately \$1 million to service 20 years of retirement.

The dollar amount can be scary and discouraging to many young people. Therefore, set small objectives. For example, young adults can start by deducting \$150 each paycheque directly into an RRSP. Each annual salary increase dedicate 25 per cent more to your RRSP and so on. Your golden years could truly be golden.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at: 416-590-1728 Ext.304. E-mail Money Matters: choochonghcg@yahoo.ca

mind&body



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METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kids' couch-surfing soars



LUCAS DZIELIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New evidence shows children and teens spend an average of 42 hours a week – three times longer than recommended guidelines – staring at a screen.

Average screen time is now six hours per day

Canadian kids are continuing to swap their running shoes for cartoons, computers and high-octane video games, pushing sedentary behaviour to an all-time high across the country.

New evidence shows children and teens spend an average of 42 hours a week – three times longer than recommended guidelines – staring at a screen. And experts have given this couch-surfing existence a failing grade in an annual report card on physical activity.

"Everything is okay in

moderation, but we seem to have lost balance when it comes to the screen time and physical activity pendulum," said Dr. Mark Tremblay, director of healthy active living and obesity research at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

This is the fourth straight year Canada has scored an overall grade of D on the Active Healthy Kids Canada report card. But it is the first time an F has been handed out for the screen-time sub-category.

Children between the ages of 10 and 16 are spending an average of six hours a day in front of a television or computer screen, according to the report

card. Current guidelines recommend a total of two hours of leisure screen time a day.

Preschool-aged children are watching up to two hours of television a day, which far exceeds their daily screen-time guideline of 30 minutes.

"This is leisure time so the explanation that kids don't have time to be active is not one, at least from this evidence, that seems valid," said Tremblay, who is also chief scientific officer of Active Healthy Kids Canada. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

dating jungle »
will return...

More restroom access, please

This morning I've come face to face with one of the unhappy truths of life.

You can't blame the opposite sex for everything. Most of the time, we would really like to do this. Women would like to blame men for everything from world wars to water retention. Men would like to blame women for the existence of such things as hygiene and greeting cards.

What I wanted to blame men for today was a comment by my friend, Rob. Rob said, and it pains me to share this, he said, "I don't see why we need more public washrooms."

We all know that small boys grow up believing there's an invisible men's room sign on every shrub



HINESIGHT
ANNE HINES

and back alley. Mothers of small girls on the other hand see the end of diaper wearing as the beginning of "now we have to find a washroom every 20 minutes." We also know that the length of time between when a toddler lisps, "I have t'gooooo," and when they do is 12.68 seconds. I shed most of my postpartum weight chasing down

grocery clerks to beg for "the key" or sprinting through department stores schlepping a 20 pound child, trying to make it to the women's room, always conveniently located at the far end of the upper floor in the very back section.

For adult women, washroom access isn't much easier. At a recent concert, the line to use the women's room was out the door, down the aisle, onto the stage. The men's room appeared to have no takers at all. I said there ought to be another women's room. Rob suggested that perhaps men are just more efficient.

That doesn't mean he's insensitive. It did mean he had to walk home.

It's a fact of being

human that if we don't need something, we don't always accept that anyone else needs it either. This applies to everything from religion to Botox. When it comes to washrooms, all women want is time, a reasonable level of cleanliness and a sense that this is intimate space. I don't know why men don't get this. We've been saying the same about sex for ages.

In the end, I think the real challenge is to stop thinking we all need the same things and start listening to what we tell each other we need. I don't know if this will get us more washrooms. I do know it would be a relief.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

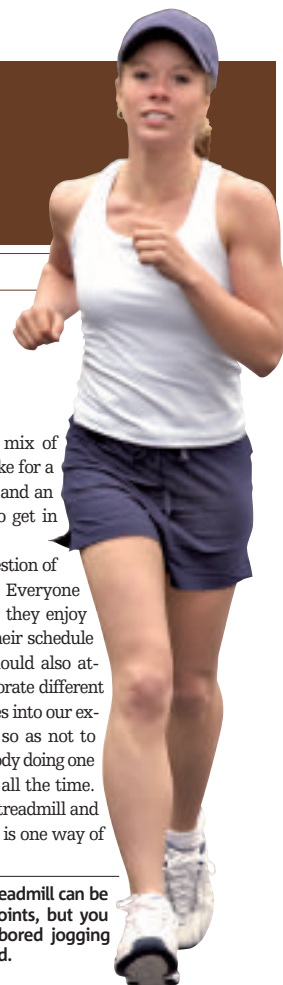


When it comes to washrooms, all women want is more access, time and a decent level of cleanliness, says our columnist.



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Start running for your life

Health benefits of using a treadmill or going for a jog

By **BRIAN TOWIE**
for Metro Halifax

What's better, running on a treadmill or going out for a jog? It's one of the simplest ways to get in shape, but weighing the pros and cons of these two ways of getting on the good foot can be as irritating as shin splints. It all comes down to what you want to accomplish with your run, both professionals and recreational runners agree.

"There are definitely benefits to both," says Mike Bates, managing director of Human Kinet-

ics Canada and presenter at Can-Fit-Pro. "The treadmill can be easier on the joints since most treadmills are going to have less impact on the body and the design of the treadmill itself. It's also a great way to pace yourself since you can set a specific speed and attempt to keep pace. You can also increase the intensity level of the treadmill by increasing the incline."

Joe Kenny, head therapist at Brock University's Athletic Therapy Clinic, says the treadmill is especially ideal for beginning runners who want to monitor their target heart rate. The risk of injury is also significantly less, adds Kenny, though people who frequently suffer leg and lower back pains will find a treadmill's

surface has virtually no give compared to natural terrains.

"It's best to run on the softest surface possible, such as wood chips and grass," said Kenny. "In that sense, I would say going outside is better, but it also depends on your treadmill. Most fitness clubs have pretty high-level ones."

The major downsides to treadmills, beyond a hard surface, runners say, are boredom and privacy. Recreational runner Patrick Stark says he hits the pavement five days a week because he enjoys the scenery.

"One of the things that I really enjoy about running is being outside, a treadmill makes no sense to me from that perspective," he said. "I run all year in any

weather. I also enjoy the solitude of running on my own, something you're not going to get if you're in a gym surrounded by 30 other people on treadmills."

Bates adds balance can be an issue, but it's usually overcome after the first few times a runner uses a treadmill. He also acknowledges the existence of treadmill tedium, but says this is no reason not to get healthy.

"In my experience we have excuses for not doing just about any activity," he said. "At some point we all need to decide what is important to us in life and hopefully we will place our health near the top of that list. Running or walking on a treadmill can be a great way to get started on your fitness program."

Bates says a mix of the two can make for a healthy routine and an effective way to get in shape.

"It's not a question of which is better. Everyone should do what they enjoy and what fits their schedule the best. We should also attempt to incorporate different types of activities into our exercise program so as not to overstress the body doing one type of activity all the time. Alternating the treadmill and running outside is one way of cross training."

Running on a treadmill can be easier on the joints, but you might be less bored jogging outdoors instead.

Fitness fun for all



From the editors of alive magazine; alive.metro@alive.com

In our busy, hectic lives, both family time and fitness time may get shuffled to the bottom of our to-do lists. But maintaining good health and spending time with our families are essential to stress relief, longevity, and truly enjoying life. What's the solution? Turn family time into family fitness time!

» **SWIMMING:** Once you're all in the water together, the options are endless. Each of you can take turns deciding what to do next. Mom might pick running laps in the shallow end, while Dad might choose a treading water contest. An hour of swimming can burn up to 300 calories, gives all the major muscle groups in your body a good workout, and is great exercise for your heart and lungs.

» **WALKING & HIKING:** How about an activity that costs very little and doesn't take specialized skills or equipment? All you need is a good pair of walking shoes for each family member, a back-

pack or two, water, and some snacks. Most communities offer green space where families can enjoy walks in the woods or other natural terrain.

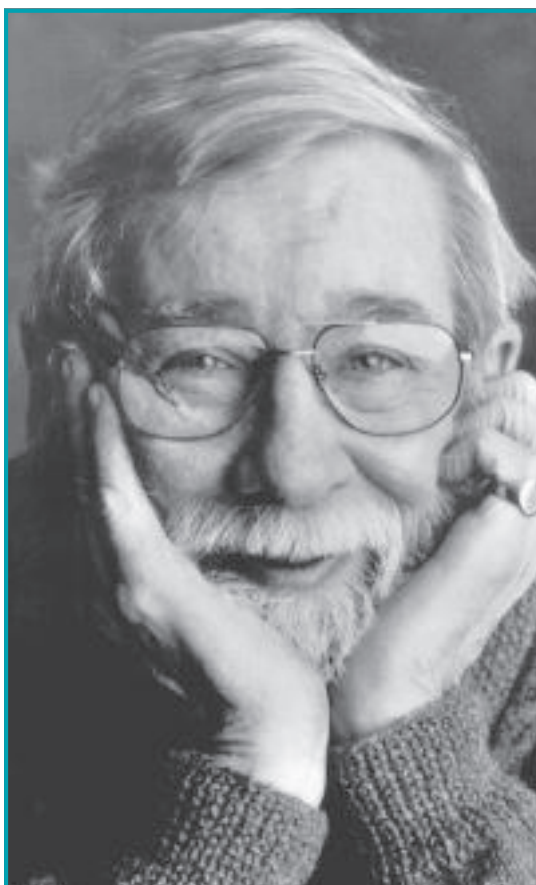
Walking can burn up to 100 calories per hour and works the cardiovascular system while toning and strengthening the legs.

» **» CYCLING:** It's wonderful to see that many communities are now paving over old railway tracks and canal towpaths into traffic-free, family-friendly cycling routes. Older and younger children will love the freedom of being able to bike as fast or slow as they like without worrying about car traffic. Cycling improves cardiovascular fitness, keeps muscles strong and toned, and burns several hundred calories per hour.

alive is a natural health and wellness magazine. Visit alive.com for more.

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entertainment



Heroes actor Christopher Eccleston will team up with Hilary Swank, left, in new movie *Amelia*, which tells the story of aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

» news
In Brief

» **TIX ON SALE** Tickets for Carrie Underwood's Oct. 12 show at the Halifax Metro Centre go on sale this Saturday at 9 a.m. Tickets to see the American Idol winner are \$47, \$55 and \$65 each. You can get them by calling 451-1221, online at ticketatlantic.com or at participating Atlantic Superstores.

» **ACTING CLASSES** Neptune Theatre School is preparing to raise the curtain on another season of thespian classes for young actors. This will mark the 25th year the school has spent the summer teaching young actors — ages four to 18 — everything from the fundamentals of musical theatre to spy camp. More information is available at netpunetheatre.com

» **CONCERT** Winnipeg-born band Harlequin will play two shows at Casino Nova Scotia this summer. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the group was an opening act for Loverboy, April Wine, and BTO. Tickets for the July 18 and 19 concerts are \$28.50. Call the Ticket Atlantic box office at 451-1221 or visit ticketatlantic.com

» **POETRY** Poet Sharon Singer will appear the Spring Garden Road Library tonight (TUE) at 7 p.m. The free performance — it starts at 7 p.m. — will include a reading of *Moses*, her own take on the biblical story but with a twist, and other material off her new CD.

METRO HALIFAX

A bad apple for a banana

Prank at art gallery leaves a bushel of questions

By DEAN LISK
Metro Halifax

A prankster took a bite out of a local art project on the weekend — switching one fruit for another.

"I was a bit surprised," said Victoria Page. Her gallery, Page and Strange, is currently showing *Banana Installation*, a work by local artist Michael Fernandes.

The experimental artist is exhibiting a banana in the window of the Granville Square gallery.

He started on Friday with a ripe yellow banana, and will replace it nearly daily through July 4 with a slightly less ripe one.

more information

» Michael Fernandes' *Banana Installation* project will remain on exhibit at Gallery Page and Strange through July 4.



A prankster swiped the banana in Michael Fernandes' *Banana Installation* on Saturday, leaving a note and an apple instead.

That was the plan, but on Saturday someone went into the gallery and replaced the banana with an apple. The switch was discovered by Page's fellow gallery owner, Victoria Strange. "It must have happened in the

very late hours of the day when she was meeting with a client," Page said. "She found an apple there with a face carved into it and a note. 'She called me and said 'I don't know if this is part of the installation,' be-

cause you never now with Michael. So, we didn't want to be too hasty, so we left it there."

Taking credit for the heist was a group calling itself the Patrick Swayze Collective. It claimed to have removed

the banana because it is the "most radioactive fruit on earth."

"We have removed the banana as a public service because we perceive the banana, and its creator a terrorist threat," continued the note, written on a napkin.

The school is located in the same block as NSCAD University, and a number of stores in the area sell apples.

"We have had some very funny e-mails from clients about it dirty dancing its way out of the gallery," said Page.

While some find humour in the banana burglary, Page said Fernandes was not pleased when he arrived at the gallery to replace the banana yesterday morning. A respected artist, his work usually questions perceptions about art.

"He picked it up and threw it away and said 'No, no, no,'" said Page.

"I completely respect where he is coming from, because this interrupts the flow of his project."

Jon-Rae tones it down

Musician back to work after East Coast trip

By DEAN LISK
Metro Halifax

Jon-Rae Fletcher has an interesting way to spend his time during his long hike through the trails around Cape Chignecto.

"I've found myself actually going over scenes from the *Terminator* in my head," said the lead singer of Jon-Rae and The Rivers.

"We did a two day hike. It's breathtaking, you are on these huge capes and it is beautiful."

Fletcher is wrapping up his trek through the Nova Scotia countryside — an excursion recommended to him by a member of the Ghost Bees — with a show



at Hell's Kitchen tonight.

While his performances with The River are known for their enjoyable live shows — with its blend of country, gospel, rock, and soul — the singer is going it solo this time.

"I have actually started to take more of a toned down approach," he said. "It is just me with an acoustic guitar, so I focus more on my singing. I am focusing more on that than just rocking out

and screaming."

Fletcher said he will be going into the studio with a member of the Ladyhawks when he gets back to British Columbia and start work on a new album of his songs.

"It is going to be a nice, toned down album," he said.

more information

» What: Jon-Rae Fletcher, with Steve Gates

» Where: Hell's Kitchen

» When: Tonight, 8 p.m.

MMVA's Bringing home the hardware



Nova Scotia-based band Wintersleep (above) picked up a 2008 Much Music Video Award on Sunday night. The group won the honour for the Dartmouth-shot video for its song *Weighty Ghost* off their latest album. The video was directed by Sean Wainstein and produced by John Nadalin.

Actress Eva Mendes, right, is in negotiations to star opposite Nicolas Cage in Werner Herzog's remake of the 1992 film *Bad Lieutenant*.

EW.COM



wedding bells

Takei to pick up marriage licence



Takei

PEOPLE Former Star Trek actor George Takei will become one of the first gay

people to receive a marriage license when the historic documents are handed out on Tuesday morning across California, imdb.com reports.

The actor announced his plans to wed longtime partner Brad Altman the day after new legislation overturned a ban on same-sex marriages in the state last month.

memoirs

Britney's mom to release book

PEOPLE Before the news of 17-year-old Jamie Lynn Spears' pregnancy broke, her mom was in the process of shopping around a parenting book. Now that the dust has settled, Lynne Spears has taken the project off hold and is said to be releasing the memoir in the fall. It will focus on what it was like for the mother of three to raise two famous children.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tony Awards

Broadway's top theatre honours were announced Sunday. Here is a selected list of 2008 winners:

Best Play
» August: *Osage County*

Best Musical
» *In the Heights*

Best Performance by a Leading Actor in a Play
» Mark Rylance – *Boeing-Boeing*

Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Play
» Deanna Dunagan – *August: Osage County*

Best Performance by a Leading Actor in a Musical
» Paulo Szot – *Rodgers & Hammerstein's South Pacific*

Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Musical
» Patti LuPone – *Gypsy*

REUTERS

Don't fear technology

SO DEMANDING: Single or childless people can attest to the transformation that often overtakes their friends when they have kids — an overwhelming urge to update you on their latest parenting adventures that's both obsessive and boring, and can only partially be blamed on a chronic sleep deficiency that, as the medical textbooks tell us, can lead to psychosis.

During the first few months of their baby's life, parents are often grateful for those moments, late at night, when they can unwind in front of the tube, their baby asleep on their shoulder, but as soon as it's obvious that junior has noticed the TV's magic diagnosis, the anxiety begins, prompted by studies —

printed monthly in every parenting magazine — that inform us that just three hours of TV watching a week in the first two years of a child's life will irrevocably damage their chances of getting a scholarship to Yale law school.

These studies get trotted out on cue in a piece by Joanna Weiss in Sunday's Boston Globe, but only after the writer gets anxious over the much harder-to-quantify effect that DVRs and video-on-demand will have on vulnerable young minds. Weiss begins by waxing nostalgic for the TV of her youth, a life lived "behind to the television schedule," where she had to watch what was on, only when it was on, and had to suffer through Charlie's Angels reruns after school,



IDIOT BOX
RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginis@metronews.ca

because she probably didn't have much of a few hundred cable channels to choose from or a hard drive full of TiVo'd shows.

What Weiss seems to have forgotten is that this Edenic world flat out sucked — I know because I was there, too.

Given the choice between trawling up and down the vast expanse of digital cable until I find something to kill an hour

or two — usually the Military Channel or Alton Brown touring diners and truck stops on Food — and a quick circuit of less than a dozen channels that inevitably leads to *The Love Boat*, I'll take the former.

Weiss recounts the awkward conversation she has with her 4-year-old whenever they ask to see something that isn't either on the DVR's hard drive or available on demand.

I've had that conversation, which Weiss doesn't seem to be able to see as an expression of a child's concept of the eternal now.

Time and all its existential implications will impress itself soon enough on her child's mind. Weiss worries, nonetheless that her child is "missing something if she isn't forced to

wait for precisely what she wants." I sometimes think that this inevitable parental recourse to wailing "What about the children?" has been as effective a form of non-pharmaceutical birth control for the childless as kids-eat-for-free nights at restaurants. Weiss' worries that being able to pause a show or choose what you want to watch when you want is only valid if you think that bookmarks and libraries have made reading an activity full of potentially damaging side effects.

And if you're so worried, maybe now's the time to go all Amish and kick the TV to the curb — if you dare.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

critics' corner

Style by Jury: Where Are They Now

An easy way to come up with a few hours worth of television, "Where are they now?" specials are always of interest to viewers. In this case, host Bruce Turner of "Style by Jury" visits past participants to see if they kept up with fashion and are happier with their lives. Special jury members — unnamed at this writing — are chosen to see the before-and-after looks. 9:30 PM on W



AFI's 10 Top 10

How does "Shrek" stack up against "Pinocchio"? "The original 'Scarface' against 'The Departed'?" "Unforgiven" against "The Searchers"? This year, instead of a 100-best list, the American Film Institute presents a series of top-10 lists, counting down the best films in 10 different genres, including sci-fi, animation, Westerns, courtroom dramas, mysteries and epics. As always, lots of stars weigh in with commentary. 9 PM on CBS

In Plain Sight

In the tradition of "The Closer," "Damages," "Bones" and other dramas with strong female leads in interesting jobs, this new series stars Mary McCormack ("The West Wing") as Mary Shannon, a federal marshal working in the Witness Protection Program. Overseeing folks who are starting over with new names, homes and jobs requires her to do many jobs of her own, from counselor to cop. Frederick Weller and Lesley Ann Warren also star. 9 PM on CIH

America's Got Talent

In season one, an 11-year-old singer took home the grand prize. In season two, it was a 40-something ventriloquist and impressionist. Who'll be America's pick this year? That's up to America... once judges Piers Morgan, Sharon Osbourne and David Hasselhoff winnow down the field from the thousands who auditioned. You can see some of them — the good, the bad and the worse — tonight with the premiere of season three. 10 PM on ASN, NBC

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6/17/08	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC News	Inside	Chronicle	Pregame	NBA	NBA Basketball: Finals	
	7	7	7	ASN	Twice in a Lifetime	Fortune	Jeopardy!	Monk			America's Got Talent (N)	
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronatin	Just-Gags	Mercer	22 Min	Ron James		National	The Hour
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	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	CBS News	Insider	Entertain	AFI's 10 Top 10 (N)			
	69	69	69	CTM	TVA 18h	Sucre-salé	Rénovation	Kmh	Caméra	La Grande Évasion		TVA 22h
	6	6	6	CHF	Entertain	ET	NCIS	In Plain Sight (N)				News (N)
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	36	36	36	FOX	Simpsons	King-Hill	Two Men	Two Men	The Moment of Truth		Hell's Kitchen	Fox First
news	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Deal or No Deal		America's Got Talent (N)	
	29	29	29	NW	BBC News	Business	News (N)	Newman	The Hour		National	Laughter
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	18	18	18	CNN	The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight	CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Cooper
	54	54	54	GOLF	The Turn	PGA Tour	Quest	Lessons	Gulbis	GolfCentri	Big Break: Ka'anapali	Big Break
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	55	55	55	SPOR	Hockey	Game On	Poker		EPL Retro		Football Factories	Tonight
sports	45	45	45	SCD	Unique Whips		Pinks	Pass Time	Thunder	Thunder	Low Life	Sup Bikes
	53	53	53	TSN	Soccer: UEFA		Sports	Euro	NBA	NBA Basketball: Finals		
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	So Raven	Smart Guy	Suite Life	Sadie	Montana	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	6teen	Johnny T	George	Scoby	Scoby	6teen	Total Dra	Futurama
	26	26	26	TREE	Fifi	Backyard	Ni Hao	Night Grdn	Wiggle	Franklin	Little Bear	Spider
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake	Malcolm	Prank Ptrl		Fries	Futurama	Prank Ptrl	Mystery
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami		The First 48		The First 48	CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	First Talk	News	Wilp	La Course	Regards	Presser	Guides	Tears
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10	Live	NBA		How to Be a Player * (1997, Comedy)			Freaks
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Bazart	Videos	The Singing Detective (2003, Drama)			Kreviazuk
family	60	60	60	97	97	97	CLT	Help TV	The West Wing		Psychic	Evidence
	25	25	25	CLM	Chevy Cross Canada Countdown			Beyond Chance		Reba	Hope	Home Imp.
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics	Air Farce	22 Min	Laughs	Corner	Simpsons	S. Park
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	38	38	38	DISC	What's That About?		Daily Planet	How-Made	How-Made	Smash Lab	Deadliest	
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	17	17	17	MM	Punk'd	Gone Wild	So You Think You Can Dance		You Can Dance		MuchNws	
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	201	201	201	MT	(6:30) Zoom		(6:15) The Accidental Witness			Children of Men (2006)		
cable variety	48	23	23	OLN	Don't Forget		R Wiese	Videos	Survivorman		Odyssey	Surf Patrol
	51	51	51	PEACH	Friends	Seinfeld	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at Texas Rangers.			
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) Diamonds Are Forever		(8:20) Blindside (1987, Drama)		The Nutty Professor (1963)			
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI en direct (SC)		Dominique Poirier	Grands reportages		Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Club
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer	Billable	ReGenesis	Blue Murder		Trailer	Kenny	CSI: NY
	40	40	40	SLICE	Three Takes		Women	Debt Part	Dead	Matchmak	Hair Challenge	Plastic
	47	47	47	SPACE	Relic Hunter		Stargate SG-1	Star Trek: Voyager		Blood Ties		Battlestar
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn	TMZ	CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn	CSI
	57	98	98	STAR	eTalk Set	Treatment	Look Like	Hollywood	CMZ	eTalk	Scoring-Stars	Tonight
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		The New Detectives	48 Hr-Evidence		48 Hr-Evidence		48 Hours
cable variety	56	34	34	TROP	Tube	Vanity	That News	That News	ET	What	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld
	20	20	20	TVS	Champion	J'nal FR2	Toute une histoire	Pékin express	Sainchard		Fourchette	Seinfeld
	28	28	28	W	Mysterious Ways		Eyes	On the	Quantum Leap		Jozi-H	
	22	22	22	W	Shopping	House	Will-Grace	Friends	Maxed	Style	Kim	Style Jury
	251	251	251	WGN	My Wife	Jim	Two Men	Fam. Guy	Beauty and the Geek		Beauty and the Geek	News

celebritybuzz

Baby in black

Gwen Stefani and husband Gavin Rossdale are painting their new baby nursery black, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Rossdale, who already has a two-year-old son Kingston with Stefani, has revealed the couple are shunning traditional pastel shades in favour of a gothic theme.

The rocker told America's OK! magazine: "We are going to put him in a black room. It'll be a goth baby so it doesn't matter if it is a boy or a girl."

Despite being tempted, the couple still haven't found out the sex of their unborn baby. Rossdale said: "We don't know if it's a boy or a girl yet."

The British musician has also revealed he and Stefani are having difficulty explaining to Kingston that he will soon have a younger brother or sister.

He said in an interview with website bild.de: "We try to explain the pregnancy to him, but I'm not sure if he understands what's going on. I think the birth of the new baby is going to be a big shock for Kingston!"

Metro News Services

STEPHEN
LOVEKIN/
GETTY IMAGES

Rhys enjoys being single again

Actor Rhys Ifans is in great spirits following his split with ex-fiance Sienna Miller, according to his co-star Talulah Riley. According to imdb.com, the St. Trinians star, who has been filming new movie *The Boat That Rocked* with Ifans, insists the Welshman is enjoying being single again — despite recent tabloid speculation he has been seen weeping on the film's set. Riley says, "I don't know what's been in the papers but he was laughing and joking all the time on set. He was just one of the lads, you know. I didn't notice him down or anything."

The couple allegedly parted ways earlier this month, with Miller reportedly dumping Ifans by phone.

Metro News Services

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McAvoy gives Jolie kissing control

Actor James McAvoy let Angelina Jolie take "control" when they filmed an on-screen kiss for new movie *Wanted*, imdb.com reports.

The *Atonement* star admits he was worried about locking lips with the gorgeous actress, but Jolie helped put him at ease by taking charge of the situation.

He says, "I was nervous but after five minutes I thought this is going to be all right, it's cool. She was in very good shape."

"It could be anybody when you're kissing someone on film, you have to make it look good. She's pretty much in control of the situation."

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Beckinsale wants derriere film double

Kate Beckinsale has reportedly demanded a body double for her latest film because she feels self-conscious about the size of her bottom, imdb.com reports. The star, 34, allegedly refused to bare her derriere while shooting a shower scene in new movie *Whiteout* — forcing producers to hire a US \$2,000-a-day model to stand in for the star. A source tells Britain's *The Mail On Sunday*, "The script called for her character to be filmed nude in a shower, focusing in on her bottom and thighs. Kate insisted on a double being hired. She was quite open on the set about not liking her body and said she particularly loathed her bottom and was not comfortable baring it."

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IMAGES

Dion sues her architect

Celine Dion says her architect doesn't know much about geometry and wants big bucks from him because of it, tmz.com reports. Dion hired Florida architect Randall Stofft in 2005 to build her a \$3 million US Jupiter Island pad — complete with an octagonal living room. Stofft had a different vision, and Dion says he refused to build the house the way she wanted. Now the house still isn't finished, according to the *Palm Beach Post*, and Dion's filed suit asking for a quarter mil in damages.

The architect had no immediate comment.

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IMAGES

Family, friends keep Lewis grounded

British pop star Leona Lewis is neither a clean image — unlike that of fellow diva nor a train wreck and she owes it all to her family and friends, people.com reports.

"I have the advantage of a great support structure," the singer, 23, tells *Parade* magazine in its June 15 issue.

"I get honest opinions from my family and friends. They aren't always telling me what I want to hear, but the truth helps keep my head straight."

It's the kind of straight talk that's kept Lewis grounded and contributed to her squeaky-

clean image — unlike that of fellow British singer Amy Winehouse, who is in constant rotation in the tabloids for her behaviour.

"Amy is an amazing artist and so talented," Lewis says when asked how a young performer manages to avoid the kind of

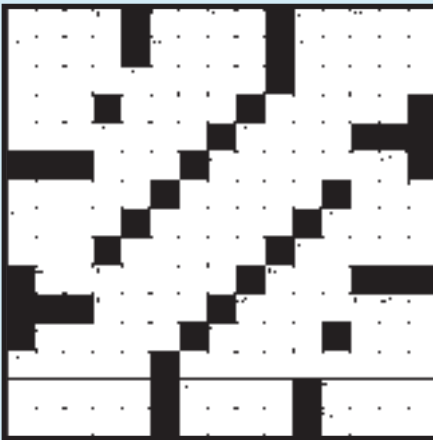
train wreck Winehouse seems to have become.

"A performer's privacy is taken away. The media are always there. You can't make your mistakes

in private."

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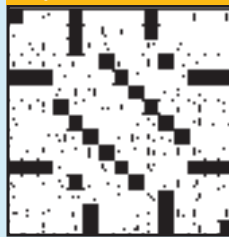
GETTY IMAGES

**down»**

- 1 Impromptu (2 wds.)
- 2 Clapton classic
- 3 Born first
- 4 Army address
- 5 Disprove
- 6 Symbols
- 7 Now hear —!
- 8 E-mail provider
- 9 Called from the Alps
- 10 Sour
- 11 Blacken
- 12 Big sandwich
- 13 Strive
- 18 Bloodhound's clues
- 22 Walked the floor
- 24 Ready to eat
- 25 Gourmet appetizers
- 27 Alter a skirt
- 28 Playing cards
- 29 From memory
- 30 Mr. Perlman
- 31 Just slightly (2 wds.)
- 32 Former frosh
- 33 Slowly vanished
- 35 Tank filler
- 37 Hung in the sun
- 38 District
- 40 Time off
- 41 Derrick or crane
- 43 — de corps
- 44 Hedge trimmers
- 46 Squeaking noise
- 47 Pierre's brother
- 48 Mammoth
- 49 Gulf nation
- 50 Ballet costume
- 51 Headphones
- 52 A grand
- 54 Ramble around
- 55 Ironical
- 56 Kind of instinct

across»

- 1 Stein fillers
- 5 Meter maid of song
- 9 Pleasure craft
- 14 Limp-watch painter
- 15 She loved Narcissus
- 16 Earth color
- 17 Fast boat
- 19 Pepys kept one
- 20 Pamplona cheer
- 21 Hassles a debtor
- 22 Slugger — Guerrero
- 23 Vitamin A source
- 25 Sanskrit dialect
- 26 Vexation
- 27 Indy participant
- 30 Scrapes
- 33 Honored
- 34 Gear tooth
- 36 A woodwind
- 37 Sighed with delight
- 38 Frat Z
- 39 Just barely win
- 40 Takes cover
- 41 Firefighters' gear
- 42 Math statement
- 44 Favorite —
- 45 Arctic transport
- 46 For the most part
- 50 Body temperature
- 52 Tijuana trio
- 53 Charlotte of "Banananas"
- 54 Museum employee
- 55 Health food buy (2 wds.)
- 57 Open-air lobbies
- 58 Loud outburst
- 59 Advise strongly
- 60 Grimy
- 61 Hearty laughs
- 62 Babysitter, often

previous answer**THE DATING WORLD**

To get the latest on what's happening in the world of dating, read Kasia Iglinski's *Dating Jungle*.

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STICKELERS
— Terry Stickeler

Here is a scrambled quote from comedian Steven Wright. See if you can unscramble it.

"Between idiot like there's no like and the is fishing line standing just share are."

— Steven Wright

Previous Answer

The answer is 18. Each word's number is the sum of the three digits in each cube.

2		6			1				
	8	5		6	9	3			
	3		8		1		4		
4	6		7				9		
			2	3	4				
	2				5		3	8	
	1		9		3		5		
		9	1	7		8	6		
		2				9		3	

instructions»

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time»

Under 13 minutes Genius
13-17 minutes Scholar
17-21 Smart
21-25 Pretty good
More than 25 Keep practising

previous answer

4	5	3	6	2	1	7	8	9
7	6	1	8	4	9	2	3	5
2	8	9	5	3	7	1	4	6
3	9	4	1	8	2	6	5	7
1	7	6	9	5	4	3	2	8
5	2	8	7	6	3	9	1	4
9	4	5	3	1	6	8	7	2
8	1	7	2	9	5	4	6	3
6	3	2	4	7	8	5	9	1

HOROSCOPE

ARIES | March 21-April 20

You're suffering from someone's fussiness. Use discretion when judging a pushy person. Someone is struggling to break a bad habit.



TAURUS | April 21-May 21

A disagreeable co-worker is trying to fool you. Someone is stuck between sadness and crisis. A man comments on your generosity.



GEMINI | May 22-June 21

A friend is causing emotional turmoil. Somebody's tenderness will astonish you. Shake up the status quo as soon as you can.



CANCER | June 22-July 22

Refuse to play with a workplace bully. Swallowing your pride isn't much fun. Expect little in terms of romance.



LEO | July 23-Aug. 23

Avoiding issues will cause dismay. An official will help out with documents. You're not to blame for a weird situation.



VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22

There'll be no trouble in work-related surprises. Take messages correctly or there'll be consequences. Act sensibly in a personal issue.



LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23

Too much sensitivity about principles will get you fired. Something in the mail gives you joy. People will want you to do their stuff.



SCORPIO | Oct. 24-Nov. 22

A financial institution won't back up its advertising. Intestinal distress results in a medical visit. Romance is the last thing on your mind.



SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23-Dec. 21

An admirer wants a chance at partnership. A clingy person wants more than you do. Be patient with weak people.



CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Loss is possible due to forgetfulness. Demands won't put love in someone's heart. Be careful about chatting with strangers.



AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Love grows with a cheerful person. Not all choices are worthwhile. You will be amazed by your sense of efficiency.



PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Good news comes in regard to getting credit. Speak up for an unfairly accused person. A sudden change works out. AVATAR VENUS

This Day IN HISTORY

June 17, 1631: Mumtaz Mahal died during childbirth. Her husband, Mughal emperor Shah Jahan I, then spent more than 20 years to build her tomb, the Taj Mahal.

June 17, 1885: The Statue of Liberty arrives in New York Harbor.

June 17, 1901: The College Board introduces its first standardized test, the forerunner to the SAT.

June 17, 1939: Last public guillotining in France. Eugen Weidmann, a convicted murderer, is guillotined in Versailles.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Halifax weather

Afternoon



Mainly sunny.
18°

Tonight



Rain.
11°

Wednesday



Rain.
14° / 11°

Thursday



Showers.
20° / 10°

Friday



Showers.
21° / 10°



Temperature
Normals
High: 18.5°
Low: 9.6°

Records
High: 29.4°/1949
Low: 3.9°/1973

Sunrise: 5:28 a.m.
Sunset: 9:01 p.m.
Moonset: 4:02 a.m.
Moonrise: 8:43 p.m.

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